

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A plurality of application servers, a client, an integrated authentication server and a security information management server are connected to a network. A user having different combinations of user ID's and passwords or certificates for a plurality of kinds of services processed by the plurality of application servers makes requests for services to the individual application servers through the client by using a common integrated certificate. An application server receiving the integrated certificate from the client transfers it to the integrated authentication server. The integrated authentication server checks information of the security information management server to decide whether the right of the user to access the service is valid and when valid, transmits to the application server a combination of a user ID of the user and a password or a certificate concerning the service. The application server performs user authentication for the user on the basis of the combination of the user ID and the password or the certificate.

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